

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Drawings

At the outset, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to indicate acceptance of the drawings filed on January 20, 2004.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 2-20 are pending in this application. Claims 2-4 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 4.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 102

Claims 2-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,965,606 ("Merkel"). For the following reasons, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention is directed to an electromagnetic wave measuring apparatus. Independent claims 2-4 require, in part, a *plurality* of probe antennas. Merkel, in contrast, is completely silent about having a plurality of probe antennas. Merkel, which is directed to an antenna shroud tempest armor, merely discloses a shroud made of a few shells that is used to enclose a path between a radiator and a probe, and is completely silent about a measuring apparatus having a plurality of probe antennas.

In the Office Action, the Examiner states that Merkel discloses "a plurality of probe antennas (1, 5) operable to detect said electromagnetic wave radiated from said antenna to be measured." This is incorrect. Referring to Figure 1 and the associated text (col. 8, lines 38-68) of Merkel, number "1" refers to a barrel, and number "5" refers to a feed. Further, Merkel is

not even relevant to a measuring apparatus. Thus, Merkel fails to show or suggest at least a plurality of antenna probes of a measuring apparatus as required by the claims and, when properly read, is clearly not pertinent prior art to the present application.

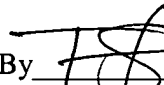
In view of the above, Merkel fails to show or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claims 2-4. Thus, independent claims 2-4 are patentable over Merkel for at least the reasons set forth above. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 02008.140001).

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Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments